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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



Selectmen of Shirley

TOGETHER WITH A

GC 974.402 SH66A,

Report of the Treasurer, Assessors, Overseers of the 1900
Poor, Fire Department, Trustees of the Public
Library, Auditors, Items from the Town
Clerk's Book, and Town Warrant,

ALSO, THE

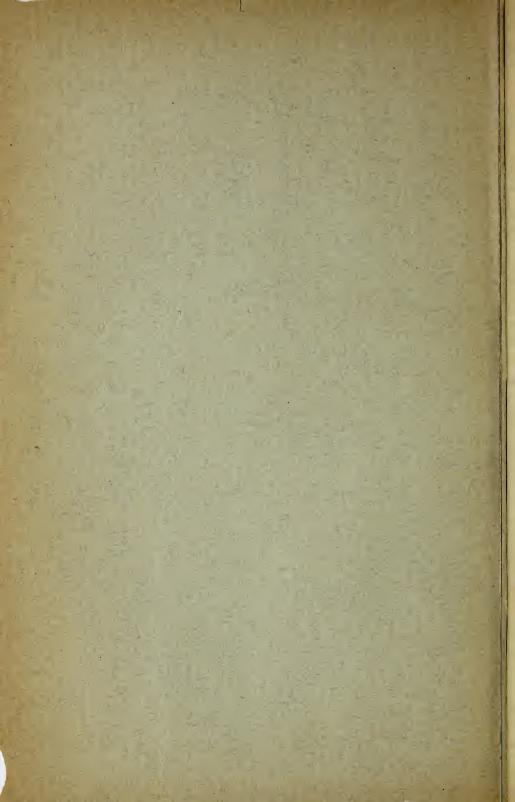
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARGH 1, 1900.



AYER, MASS.:
HUNTLEY S. TURNER, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER.
1900.



ANNUAL REPORTS.

REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

SHIRLEY, MASS., March 1, 1900.

To the Voters of the Town of Shirley:

GENTLEMEN: The Selectmen hereby submit the following report of their work for the year ending March 1, 1900:

Summary of Expenditures.

Poor	\$2521	I 2
Schools	4590	22
Highways	1170	92
Bridges and railings	454	34
Snow	205	60
Memorial Day	25	00
Interest	749	90
State aid	687	50
Soldiers' relief	100	2 9
Cemetery trust	34	60
Town cemetery	42	07
Library	288	61
Transportation of books	25	00
Fire Department	479	OI
Salaries	555	50
Incidentals	994	об
Cattle inspection	67	51
Street lights	57. ⁸	
Insurance	186	70
Repairs to buildings	84	87

Revolutionary Soldiers' Memorial	\$76 00	
Enforcement of law	649 40	
Board of health	234 47	
State tax	435 00	
County tax	786 02	
Temporary loans	7000 00	
	 \$23,	022 15
Estimates for Year	1000-1001	
Schools	\$2800 00	
School supplies	200 00	
Transportation		
Tuition	350 00 200 00	
Repairs		
Fuel ·	50 00	
	200 00	
Superintendent	200 00	000 00
		000 00
Highways	\$1500 00	
Bridges and railings	200 00	
Poor	2000 00	
Fire Department	300 00	
Interest	800 00	
Library	300 00	
Cemeteries	50 00	
Memorial Day	25 00	
Street lights	400 00	
Enforcement of law	500 00	
Salaries	500 00	
Incidentals	800 00	•
Snow	300 00	
Notes payable	1000 00	
		675 00

\$12,675 00

FINANCIAL CONDITION.

Indebtedness.

First National Bank of Ayer Parker School Fund Israel Longley School Fund North Middlesex Savings Bank Universalist Society Note Outstanding orders	\$3000 2657 1000 6400 1000 942	57 00 00 00		
			\$15,000	09
Assets.				
Cash balance	\$210	52		
Due from Collector, 1898	244	97		
Due from Collector, 1899	1484	00		
Due from State fees for cattle in-				
spection	49	72		
Due from State for State aid	795	50		
Due from State for State tax corpo-				
ration	234	00		
Due from State share for Superin-				
tendent of Schools	238	80		
Due from State for poor	1005	_		
Due from towns for poor	522			
Interest, Trust Funds	247			
Due from A. Farcier, for aid to wife	150	46	# O -	
•			\$5183	33
Net debt			\$9816	76

Decrease from last year, \$1429.09.

TRUST FUNDS.

Deposited with the International Trust Co.

Israel Longley School Fund	\$6 000	00	
Israel Longley Cemetery Fund	500	00	
Jerome Gardner Cemetery Fund	500	00	
John Henry Cemetery Fund	500	00	
Parker School Fund	50 40		
		\$12,540	57

In Hands of Town Treasurer.

Geo. Rice Cemetery Fund	\$100	00		
Nathaniel Day Cemetery Fund	200	00		
Geo. Chandler Cemetery Fund	100	00		
Sally Page Fund	300	00		
			\$700	00

D. CHESTER PARSONS, JOHN W. FARRAR, JACOB P. HAZEN,

SELECTMEN OF SHIRLEY.

POOR.

Appropriation	\$2000 00	
Received from towns	295 05	
Received from state	283 43	" 0 0
		\$2578 48
Due from state	\$1005 36	
Due from towns	522 18	
Due from individuals	150 46	
		\$ 1678 00
		\$4256 48
Cost of town poor	\$1586 15	
Cost of state poor	497 58	
Cost of poor settlements elsewhere	437 39	
		\$2521 12
Aid to Mrs. Geo. H. A	1 ee Jacons	
Mrs. Lillie West	\$208 00	
J. W. Farrar	4 50	
		\$212 50
Aid to Levi Blo	od.	
Mrs. Lillie West	\$130 00	
J. W. Farrar	2 30	
C. J. Pierce, M. D.	16 50	
- · J		\$148 80
Aid to Michael H. B	ronson.	
Thaddeus Balcom	\$64 29	
John W. Farrar	7 73	
		\$72 02
Aid to Charles E. W	Theeler.	
Worcester Lunatic Asylum		\$222 17

Aid to Fred Wheeler.

Worcester Lunatic Hospital		\$84	50
Aid to Thomas K. Fish	te.		
Danvers Insane Hospital D. C. Parsons, expenses	207 79 7 40	\$215	19
Aid to Agnes Smith.			
C. J. Pierce, M. D.	\$1 50		
D. C. Parsons, expenses	38 30	\$39	80
Aid to Susan Boucher.			
C. J. Pierce, M. D.		\$102	00
Aid to Moses Hunt.			
Conant Bros. & Co.	\$ 87		
H. O. Peasley	21 49	\$22	36
Aid to Mrs. Tagin.			
Ann Sullivan		\$196	40
Aid to Mrs. A. W. But	ler.		
H. O. Peasley	\$1 38		
Conant Bros. & Co.	1 55	# 0	0.0
-		\$2	93
Aid to Michael McGuin	nes s .		
	\$51 39		
D. C. Parsons	4 50	\$55	89
Aid to Armenia Farcie	er.		
Worcester Lunatic Hospital (1895)		\$38	5 1

Aid to Mrs. Burno.

E. F. Harvey	\$52 00	
C. J. Pierce, M. D.	5 00	
L. Boucher	48 00	
Conant Bros. & Co.	5 75	
J. Pennisseau	14 00	
		\$124 75

Aid to Mary Bruso.

Conant Bros. & Co.	\$6 00
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Miscellaneous Aid.

S. B. Scott, tramps	\$25	36	
J. C. Hazen, tramps	_	75	
D. C. Parsons, Carrol case	4	20	
Fitchburg R. R., tares: Smith, \$2.20;			
Moore, \$1.30; Wilson, \$2.82;			
Fowler, \$4.00	IO	32	
D. C. Parsons, Brooks Insane	4	ΙI	
S. Hobbs, supplies	4	00	
D. C. Parsons, pauper blanks	- 4	00	
Mrs. Butler	7	50	
D. C. Parsons, expense pauper cases	2	74	
H. O. Peasley, aid to tramps		55	
•			\$66 53
			\$1607 35
			# 100/ 33

STATE POOR.

Aid to Triflet Devarney.

D. C. Parsons	\$14	65
A. F. Fernald, M. D.	84	30
J. P. Hazen	2	40
G. M. Ballou	3	50

J. F. Brown	\$7 00	
Conant Bros. & Co.	15 35	
H. O. Peasley	77 00	
Codman & Shurtleff	5 00	
H. A. Esterbrook	3 75	
O. M. Bennett	2 50	#
		\$215 45
Aid to Mary Cot	ex.	
A. F. Fernald, M. D.		\$18 00
Aid to George Deve	arney.	
A. F. Fernald, M. D.		\$10 00
Aid to Peter Que	nty.	
B. J. Peirce, M. D.		\$30 00
Aid to B. Simmo	nds.	
C. J. Peirce, M. D.	\$22 00	
J. P. Hazen	7 50	
D. C. Parsons	2 30	# 0
		\$31 80
Aid to Maxime St.	Cyr.	
T. Lambert	\$9 00	
Conant Bros. & Co.	30 22	
A. F. Fernald	44 85	
D. C. Parsons	18 80	
W. H. Cram	50	
Fitchburg R. R., fares and freight	6 50	
H. C. Owens	5 00	<i>*</i> 0
		\$194 87
Aid to E. F. Fland	ders.	
G. H. Hill		\$4 78

Aid to Joseph Cormier.

A. F. Fernald, M. D.	\$25 00	
J. P. Hazen	4 20	
H. O. Peasley	21 49	
		\$50 69

Aid to William Bulger.

H. O. Peasley		\$10 79
	•	\$476 38

SETTLEMENTS ELSEWHERE.

Aid to Mrs. Louis Baker.

H. O. Peasley	\$3 52
Harding James	3 30
Conant Bros. & Co.	6 00
A. F. Fernald, M. D.	18 00
W. H. Brown	I 50
D. C. Parsons	8 00
	

Aid to Mrs. Benjamin Nutting.

A. F. Fernald, M. D.	\$22 00		
Conant Bros. & Co.	10 90		
H. O. Peasley	7 20		
Mary A. Hume	16 00		
W. N. Cowles, M. D.	8 00		
Mary E. Butler	10 00	# 0	
,		\$84 1	0

Aid to T. Casey.

\$3 50 T. L. Hazen

Aid to Mamie Scott.

Mrs. McGuinness A. F. Fernald, M. D. Mrs. M. E. Hume H. O. Peasley D. C. Parsons	\$62 c 22 8 16 c 3 5	30 00 00
Aid to Rodn	iey Peabody	1
J. P. Hazen Conant Bros. & Co.	\$1 4	
Mrs. Hibbard	9 3	
A. F. Fernald, M. D. Mrs. G. F. Lewis	· 11 0	
Wm. H. Brown	8 0	•
Aid to Mr	s. Hibbard.	
A. F. Fernald, M. D.	\$24 0	00
Cash for rent paid to Mrs. Hi	bbard 7 5	- \$31 50
Aid to Mrs.	Robert Reed.	
H. O. Peasley	\$22 I	7
A. F. Fernald, M. D.	87 2	_
Conant Bros. & Co.		90
Weeks & Potter	2 5	
D. C. Parsons	6 7	<u>\$118 82</u>
		\$437 39

STATE AID.

Jeremiah Flynn \$48 00 Mary Gately 48 00 Mary A. Howard 48 00 Julia O'Keefe 48 00 Ann M. Lawrence 48 00 George F. Lewis 72 00 Wm. R. McClellan 48 50 Johanna O'Neill 48 00 Lydia Ramsdell 48 00 Joel C. Neat 48 00 Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 Amount repaid by State \$687 50					
Mary Gately 48 00 Mary A. Howard 48 00 Julia O'Keefe 48 00 Ann M. Lawrence 48 00 George F. Lewis 72 00 Wm. R. McClellan 48 50 Johanna O'Neill 48 00 Lydia Ramsdell 48 00 Joel C. Neat 48 00 Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Jeremiah Flynn	\$48	00		
Julia O'Keefe 48 00 Ann M. Lawrence 48 00 George F. Lewis 72 00 Wm. R. McClellan 48 50 Johanna O'Neill 48 00 Lydia Ramsdell 48 00 Joel C. Neat 48 00 Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Mary Gately	· .			
Ann M. Lawrence 48 00 George F. Lewis 72 00 Wm. R. McClellan 48 50 Johanna O'Neill 48 00 Lydia Ramsdell 48 00 Joel C. Neat 48 00 Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Mary A. Howard	•			
Ann M. Lawrence 48 00 George F. Lewis 72 00 Wm. R. McClellan 48 50 Johanna O'Neill 48 00 Lydia Ramsdell 48 00 Joel C. Neat 48 00 Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Julia O'Keefe	48	00		
George F. Lewis 72 00 Wm. R. McClellan 48 50 Johanna O'Neill 48 00 Lydia Ramsdell 48 00 Joel C. Neat 48 00 Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Ann M. Lawrence	•			
Wm. R. McClellan 48 50 Johanna O'Neill 48 00 Lydia Ramsdell 48 00 Joel C. Neat 48 00 Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	George F. Lewis				
Johanna O'Neill 48 00 Lydia Ramsdell 48 00 Joel C. Neat 48 00 Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Wm. R. McClellan				
Lydia Ramsdell 48 00 Joel C. Neat 48 00 Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 c0 Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Johanna O'Neill	•	•		
Joel C. Neat 48 00 Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Lydia Ramsdell				
Charles F. Smith 48 00 Daniel Finnegan 52 00 Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Joel C. Neat	•			
Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Charles F. Smith				
Henry T. Balcom 48 co Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Daniel Finnegan	52	00	6	
Henry B. Richardson 12 00 William H. Dodge 23 00 ——— \$687 50	Henry T. Balcom	•			
William H. Dodge 23 00 \$687 50	Henry B. Richardson	•			
\$687 50	•	23	00		
Amount repaid by State \$687 50	S			\$687	50
	Amount repaid by State	\$687	50		

SOLDIERS' AID.

Mrs. Gleason	\$65 00		
G. F. Lewis	35 29		
		\$100	29

INTEREST.

International Trust Co.	\$159	94		
Universalist Society	50	00		
North Middlesex Savings Bank	288	00		
First National Bank of Ayer	251	96		
		—	\$749 90)

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Boston Woven Hose & Rubber Co.,				
hose	\$82	3 9		
Shirley Engine Co.	217	00		
Mrs. M. E. Butler, refreshments	7	00		
C. R. White, engineer	10	00		
S. Young, steward	25	00		
C. H. Miner, engineer 1897	7	00		
A. S. Thayer, engineer	10	00		
A. S. Thayer, carting, etc., hose	ſ	75		
Thomas Shea, watching fire	I	8 o	٠.	
E. Gately, watching fire	I	80		
W. McCool, watching fire	1	80		
S. W. Longley, extinguishers	45	00		
W. J. Walsh, services		00		
Conant Bros. & Co., supplies	2	75		
C. E. Kidder, repairs to engine		15		
H. O. Peasley, supplies	8	82		
J. W. Farrar, supplies		75		
Brush fire	36	50		
Dennis O'Neill		00		
Conant Bros. & Co.		50		
C. R. White, sundries	6	00		
			\$479	OI

REPAIRS TO BUILDINGS.

R. M. Priest, painting engine house	\$54 42	•
C. H. Balcom, repairs to engine house	2 00	,
Wm. H. Brown, repairs to engine		
house	6 75	
G. M. Ballou, repairs to engine house	8 70	`
C. H. Miner, repairs to lockup	3 00)
D. C. Parsons	10 00)
		\$84 87

HIGHWAYS.

W. H. Hewes, as	gent	\$2	57
A. L. Parker		7	20
H. P. Barnard		104	80
C. A. Longley		272	20
G. C. West		105	68
J. W. Farrar		18	08
S. B. Scott		6	20
E. Sargent		90	48
G. Holden		188	75
G. W. Davis		66	
F. P. Cote		3	28
Mass. Broken St	tone Co.		19
W. Sawtell	•		40
G. M. Ballou			09
R. Fletcher			88
C. H. Miner		I	50
Julia Hazen, gra	vel	10	32
M. W. Longley		5	50
W. B. Wilson		5	60
Indiana Road M	achine Co.		00
N. A. Holden		16	96
G. S. Wells		2 I	00
M. Keating			80
W. H. Cram, gra	avel	2	50
T. L. Hazen, fre	eshet	11	62
C. A. Longley	"	16	60
Hugh Mitchell	"	3	65
W. R. Neat	"	5	28
E. J. Stevens	"	9	28
G. C. West	"	2	56
M. W. Longley	"	7	85
W. B. Wilson	"	6	24
J. E. O'Donnell	66	5	92
H. G. Holden	"	I	94

G. Holden, freshet	\$15	бо
E. L. White "	25 (58
J. W. Farrar, supplies	2 :	25
D. C. Parsons	2	30
		- \$1170 92

BRIDGES AND RAILINGS.

Geo. Holden		\$4 00	
C. A. Longley		87 04	
G. C. West		32 72	
F. B. Cote	•	40	
H. P. Barnard		32 00	
E. Sargent		31 20	
J. W. Farrar		3 62	
A. H. Thompson		4 01	
Bixby Bros.		36	
C. H. Scott		4 50	
W. Sawtell		3 20	
G. M. Ballou		102 42	
E. L. White		148 87	
			\$454 34

MEMORIAL TO REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS.

M. W. Longley	\$1 OO	
R. E. Reading, moving boulder	75 00	
	***************************************	\$76 00

MEMORIAL DAY.

John W. Farrar	\$4 00	
Henry C. Sherwin, Quartermaster	21 00	
		\$25 00

SNOW, 1898-1899.

C W D :		
G. W. Davis	\$20 65	
G. Dobson	3 60)
W. F. Hewes, agent	23 00	•
J. E. O'Donnell	I OC)
F. B. Cote	2 80)
T. J. Gately	I 40	
H. E. Barnard	I 52	
C. A. Longley	3 40	•
J. E. Miller	2 00)
G. L. Fairbanks	21 90	
E. J. Stevens	3 30	
Willie Sawtell	I OC	
A. Adams	60	1
J. W. Evans	90	
J. E. Spaulding	3 00	
Sundry persons	32 80	
E. W. Mellish	3 00	
		\$125 87

SNOW, 1900.

A. B. Cram	\$22	43		
A. L. Parker	13			
T. L. Hazen	20	06		
W. F. Hewes, agent	5	80		
John Neat	I	00		
C. A. Longley	5	00		
Hugh Mitchell	2	00		
C. H. Andrews	2	00		
E. J. Stevens	. 2	00		
J. E. O'Donnell	I	84		
G. Holden	3	80		
			и.	
	<i>\$7</i> 9	73	\$205	00

SALARIES.

W. J. Walsh, Registrar	\$8 (00		
L. J. Farnsworth, Registrar	6 (00		
D. C. Parsons, Assessor	60 (00		
J. P. Hazen, Assessor	35	00		
J. W. Farrar, Assessor	25 (00		
A. N. Somers, School Committee	12	50		
Henry Edgarton, School Committee	35	00		
W. H. Wilbur, School Committee	50 (00		
M. M. Nickless, School Committee	10 (00		
H. S. Hazen, Registrar	8 (00		
D. C. Parsons, Selectman	85 (00		
J. W. Farrar, Selectman	50 (00		
J. P. Hazen, Selectman	75	00		
Henry Edgarton, Treasurer	65 (00		
Jonas Longley, Town Clerk	20 (00		
Jonas Longley, Registrar	8 (00		
J. E. L. Hazen, Auditor	3 (00		
		_	\$555	50

ENFORCEMENT OF LAW.

J. H. Logue, officer	\$424	65		
H. Parker, legal services	75	00		
W. H. Cram, teams	6	75		
W. H. Atwood, legal services	60	00		
H. E. Lawrence, officer	32	75		
T. B. Spalter, copies	2	50		
E. A. Whitney, teams	5	00		
D. C. Parsons, cash disbursements, et	c. 42	75		
•		_	\$649 .	40

INSPECTOR OF CATTLE.

S. B. Scott

STREET LIGHTS.

H. C. Owens, lighting and care	\$67	18		
J. W. Farrar, supplies	14	78		
Ray Meader	I	06		
G. M. Ballou, post	I	00		
T. J. Gately, lighting and care	362	48		
W. H. Brown, supplies	17	98		
Conant Bros. & Co., supplies	-	28		
C. A. Edgarton Mfg. Co.	I	50		
D. C. Parsons	3	75		
W. E. Barnard, care	I	50		
M. Shea, lamp and post	3	00		
H. O. Peasley, oil	93	18		
Boston Lamp Co.		75		
٠,			\$578	44
			-	

TOWN CEMETERY.

Income from Day, Rice and Chandler Funds One-half amount of Cemetery appro-	\$72 79	•
priation	25 00	
		\$97 7 9
EXPENDITURES.		
G. C. West	\$2 40	
H. P. Barnard	2 88	
M. W. Longley	12 12	
A. B. Cook, surveying	4 00	
H. S. Hazen	5 72	
Geo. Holden	8 00	
C. A. Longley	5 60	
Rufus Fletcher	80	
J. W. Farrar	55	
	•	\$42 07
		\$55 72

BOARD OF HEALTH.

 H. K. Mulford Co., Formaldehyde regenerator J. P. Hazen, services and expenses Weeks & Potter, Formaldehyde, etc. A. F. Fernald, M. D., fumigation H. A. Esterbrook, supplies D. C. Parsons, services and expenses H. C. Owens, services Conant Bros. & Co. W. Wilbur, express, etc. 	\$27 25 25 00 53 01 53 50 6 20 25 00 40 00 1 51 3 00	\$234 4 <i>7</i>
INSURANCI	Ξ.	
J. P. Hazen S. W. Longley	\$100 30 86 40	\$186 70
CEMETERY TR	UST.	
Income Gardner Fund Income Henry Fund Income Longley Fund Half Cemetery Appropriation	\$19 00 19 00 19 00 25 00	\$82 00
EXPENDITURES.	•	
J. F. Brown C. Logue C. A. Longley	\$15 65 8 55 10 40	\$34 60
Balance unexpended		\$47 40

INCIDENTALS.

H. F. Green, election officer	\$3	00
J. A. Hume, election officer	6	00
T. F. Gately, election officer	3	00
H. P. Barnard, election officer	3	00
J. H. Logue, election officer	3	00
T. L. Hazen, election officer	3	00
T. J. Gately, election officer	3	00
W. J. Baker, election officer	3	
L. J. Farnsworth, election officer	3	00
E. H. Livermore, election officer		00
J. Bulger, election officer		00
W. M. Sargent, supplies	_	97
Dennison Tag Co., supplies		30
A. L. Parker, teams		00
H. S. Turner, printing town reports and		
ballots	99	00
W. M. Park, dog warrant 1898, etc.	ΙΙ	00
W. H. Cram, teams	3	00
E. A. Bustead		ი8
D. C. Parsons, expenses sending town		
reports, etc.	ΙI	60
C. C. Hoffman & Co., town seal	25	00
Adams, Cushing & Foster, supplies	_	00
National Express	_	95
W. M. Park, officer's fees	8	34
S. Sandlin, officer's fees		62
H. E. Lawrence, officer's fees	48	20
J. H. Meegan, services	8	00
J. H. Gould, services	IO	00
J. W. Farrar, supplies	19	70
C. J. Peirce, M. D., returning births	-	00
S. B. Scott	ī	25
J. F. Brown, services as sexton	32	75
A. F. Brownell, assessors' blanks	2	25

Graves & Green, town seal cut	\$6	50
J. H. Logue, officer's fees	40	2 0
Thomas Manning, officer's fees	6	32
R. W. Savage, watering trough	3	00
W. J. Walsh, officer's fees, etc.	14	84
Greenough & Adams, supplies	12	<i>7</i> 5
T. C. Hurd, copies	14	30
W. H. Wilbur, oil, express, etc.	4	23
S. Hobb & Co., supplies	12	I 5
H. S. Turner, printing	27	65
W. M. Sargent, printing	8	63
W. H. Crossman, police service	2	00
D. C. Parsons, expense to Worcester		
three times	10	06
F. Bodah, assisting surveyor	3	<i>7</i> 5
George Pernnisseau, services		00
A. S. Thayer, services	6	00
A. F. Fletcher, surveying	10	00
T. J. Gately, watching at engine house	3	00
F. B. Harvey, services	5	00
F. P. Rugg, services	4	00
W. H. Wilbur, express, etc.	8	77
J. P. Hazen, supplies	3	57
D. C. Parsons, preparing copy for val-		
uation list, etc.	18	50
Conant Bros. & Co., supplies	9	50
H. S. Turner, valuation list, etc.	58	<i>7</i> 5
C. H. Fisher, refreshments for County		
Commissioners		50
H. S. Hazen, election officer	6	00
Freeman Hopkins, officer's fees	I	85
W. H. Atwood, legal services	50	00
J. P. Hazen, perambulating Lunen-		
burg line	2	00
Stamps, etc.	3	25
H. E. Lawrence, dog warrant 1899		
11. E. Lawrence, dog warrant 1699	5	00

Watering trough	\$3 00
H. S. Turner, printing	16 25
D. C. Parsons, Whitaker matter, etc.	21 90
Warren & Co, supplies	16 00
C. A. Ford, election officer	3 00
Henry Shaw, books	4 00
M. F. Day, election officer	3 00
H. C. Sherwin, officer's fees	7 90
A. B. Cram	3 25
E. J. Stevens, election officer	3 00
S. B. Scott, supplies	2 43
O. M. Bennett, wood	I 00
A. Duby, services	2 00
H. S. Turner, printing	7 00
E. O. Childs, recording deeds	1 54
F. H. Jenkins, services	4 60
W. H. Cram, teams	II 72
Henry Edgarton, expense to Ayer and	
postage	5 05
A. F. Fernald, M. D., reporting births	6 25
S. Sandlin, services	20 90
A. A. Cook, watering trough, 1898-1899	6 00
M. W. Longley, election officer	2 00
Lovell Arms Co., supplies	9 00
T. C. Hurd	6 00
Jonas Longley, recording births	21 50
Jonas Longley, recording marriages	
and deaths	10 00
Jonas Longley, express, etc.	4 34
D. C. Parsons, perambulating Lunen-	
burg line	2 00
E. L. White, watering trough	5 00
J. E. L. Hazen, election officer and	
oaths	3 75
J H. Turner, publishing notices, etc.	6 60

LIBRARY.

W. H. Crossman, janitor	\$64	00		
Edith L. Conant, librarian	3	00		
Estelle E. Ely, librarian	49	00		
N. E. Magazine, magazine	3	00		
C. E. Lauriat Co., books	III	66		
Cummings & Remington, repairing				
books	11	95		
Conant Bros. & Co., fuel, etc.	32	00		
H. S. Turner, printing	4	00		
J. E. L. Hazen, magazines	10	00		
		_	\$288	61

TRANSPORTATION OF LIBRARY BOOKS.

J. C. Ayers

\$25 00

GUIDE POSTS.

In accordance with the requirements of the law we submit the following report:

Guide posts have been maintained within the limits of the town, in compliance with Chapter 54 of the Public Statutes and Acts of Amendments thereof.

> D. CHESTER PARSONS, JOHN W. FARRAR, JACOB P. HAZEN,

> > SELECTMEN.

ASSESSORS' REPORT.

We, the Assessors of Shirley, herewith submit our report:

\$435 00

State tax

County tax.	786 02
Town appropriations	10,100 00
Overlayings	328 20
	 \$11,649 22
Number of polls assessed, 410. For poll tax only, 229.	
Total personal estate assessed Total real estate	\$141,673 00 623,940 00 \$765,513 00

Tax on personal estate	\$2,024 30
Tax on real estate	8,804 92
Tax on polls	820 00
	———— \$11,649 22

Rate \$14.30 per \$1,000.	
Number of horses	227
Number of cows	280
Number of sheep	13
Number of neat cattle	124
Number of swine	21
Number of dwelling-houses	324
Number of acres of land	93051
Number of fowls	22030

JACOB P. HAZEN, D. CHESTER PARSONS, JOHN W. FARRAR,

ASSESSORS OF SHIRLEY.

ENGINEERS' REPORT.

SHIRLEY, March 1, 1900.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Shirley:

Gentlemen:

The Board of Engineers herewith respectfully submit their annual report.

But one fire has occurred during the past year. The barn of Chas. E. Dodge was struck by lightning and totally destroyed. No alarm was given as building was destroyed before notice was received.

The compliment of men in the company is nearly full, and the apparatus in good condition.

A. S. THAYER,
C. R. WHITE,
DENNIS O'NEILL,
BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS.

REPORT OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES.

The Trustees of the Public Library submit the following report for the year ending March 1, 1900:

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

Number of books in circulation March 1, 1900	2,502
Number of books in reference room March 1, 1900	396
Number of days Library was open	52
Number of persons taking books	253
Number of books taken	3,578

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Appropriation		\$250 00
EXPENDITURES.		
W. H. Crossman, janitor	\$64 00	
C. E. Lauriat Co., books	111 66	,
N. E. Magazine	3 00	
Librarian	52 00	
Binding magazines	11 95	*
Conant Bros., fuel	20 78	
Magazine subscriptions	II 22	
H. S. Turner, printing	4 00	
J. E. L. Hazen, magazines	10 00	
		\$288 61
FINE RECEIPTS.		
Balance of fines unexpended, 1899	\$3 21	
Received from fines	17 08	
Received from Bolton fund	3 48	
		\$23 77
EXPENDITURES.		
C. E. Lauriat Co.	\$16.09	
Magazines	3 10	
Cleaning	2 75	
		\$21 94
Balance unexpended		\$1 83

It is felt that we should be better able to accomplish a good work were we to have a larger appropriation; and it is earnestly hoped that the town shall appropriate the sum of three hundred dollars for the ensuing year.

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY,
By M. J. HAZEN, SECRETARY.

REPORT OF COLLECTOR OF TAXES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH I, 1900.

Tax	for	1896.

Balance due town			\$28 26
Amount paid to town	\$28	26	

Tax for 1898.

	1 ux jur 1090.		
Tax warrant	\$11,602	17	
After tax	. 47	00	
Interest		95	
		— \$ 11,664 12	;
Payments	\$10,882	43	
Abatements	146	II	
Discounts	273	97	
Commission	116	64	
		\$11,419 15	,
Balan c e due to	wn	<u>**244 97</u>	

Tax for 1899.

Tax warrant	\$11,649 2 2
After tax	57 20
	——— \$11,706 42
Payments	10,222 42
Balance due town	\$1,484 00

ABATEMENT OF TAXES

FOR THE YEAR 1898.

O. W. Balcom, real estate		\$2	90
G. H. Spead, out of town	•	2	00
James Bulger, in Vermont		2	36
M. W. Carey, exempt	•	2	00
B. S. Clark, in Rhode Island		2	00
O. B. Cutler, in Spanish war		2	00

E. Fennessey, in East Hampton	\$2 00
W. B. Gately, in Spanish war	2 0)
A. S. Griffin, left town	2 00
Fannie Hersom, error real estate	10 15
Orville Le Page, 19 years old	2 00
C. A. Longley, real estate	11 60
W. A. Ladd, physical disabilities	2 29
G. W. Moulton, left town	2 00
H. B. Moorehouse, in Rhode Island	2 00
Thomas McCool, 19 years old	2 00
A. C. Nickerson, paid in Fitchburg	2 00
A. L. Noe, personal property	1 1 <i>7</i>
G. O'Donnell, taxed in Boston	2 00
L. J. Pappineau, taxed in Pepperell	2 00
Dolor Quenty, 19 years old	2 00
Chas. Stone, error in name	2 00
Charles L. Blodgett, error	2 00
A. A. Warner	2 00
G. L. Westgate, paid in Melrose	2 00
J. A. Westgate, paid in Melrose	2 00
W. Wolff, 19 years old	2 00
Frank Gregory	2 00
James Young, real estate	29 00
Estate E. H. Sampson, real eatate	2 90
Peter Tarbell, real estate	4 35
Elizabeth J. Moran, real estate	I 45
G. S. Lewis, exempt	23 03
Jeremiah Mushrael, error	2 17
Harriet Shearer	4 35
Malcom Simpson, taxed in Clinton	2 00
P. W. McKaye	2 39

I hereby certify that the above list and the reasons are correct.

SAMUEL B. SCOTT,

SHIRLEY, MASS.

COLLECTOR OF TAXES.

\$146 11

MIDDLESEX, SS.

SHIRLEY, March 1, 1900.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day.

D. CHESTER PARSONS,

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

JACOB P. HAZEN, D. CHESTER PARSONS, JOHN W. FARRAR,

Assessors of Shirley.

LIST OF JURORS FOR 1900-1901.

The following list of Jurors has been prepared by the Selectmen for the acceptance of the Town at the Annual Meeting to be held March 19, 1900:

Robertus F. Colburn, retired. Almond M. Holden, farmer. Savillion W. Longley, insurance agent. John E. L. Hazen, clerk. Melvin W. Longley, farmer. Herman S. Hazen, retired. John E. Gardner, farmer. Augustus B. Cram, farmer. Thomas L. Hazen, farmer. James F. Brown, undertaker. Wm. A. L. Crockett, cooper. Walter E. Mellish, blacksmith. Edward J. Stevens, farmer. Jacob P. Hazen, farmer. John W. Farrar, storekeeper. Gilbert M. Ballou, lumber dealer. Alphonso B. Sparrow, real estate.

William Jubb, farmer.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Town of Shirley in account with H. Edgarton, Treas.

1899.	RECEIPTS.	
Mar. 1.	Cash on hand	\$323 44
Mar. 7.	Cash of J. W. Farrar, use	
	of Town Hall	22 50
Mar. 11.	Cash of Commonwealth of	
	Massachusetts, corpora-	
	tion tax	459 19
Mar. 29.	Cash of S. B. Scott	129 14
Apr. 6.	Cash of Morris Miller, li-	
	cense	6 00
Apr. 6.	Cash of Francis Adolday	6 00
Apr. 6.	Cash of woman, license	6 оо
Apr. 6.	Cash of Ayer Bank, town	
	note	1000 00
Apr. 18.	Cash of Ayer Bank, town	
	note	1000 00
Apr. 29.	Cash of S. B. Scott	85 00
May 5.	Cash of Julius Miller, li-	
	cense	6 00
May 5.	Cash of G. W. Sanderson,	
	court fees	I 04
May 10.	Cash of town of Leomin-	
	ster, poor	10 75
May 10.	Cash of G. S. Wells, license	I 00
May 25.	Cash of Commonwealth of	
	Massachusetts, poor	31 50
June 2.	Cash of S. B. Scott	27 57
June 2.	Cash of Ayer Bank, town	
	note	1500 00
June 16.		74 _. 92
June 24.	Cash of Ayer Bank, town	
	note	1500 00

July 1.	Cash of International Trust		
	Co., trust funds	\$242	32
July 1.	Cash of G. W. Sanderson	5	90
July 25.	Cash of S. B. Scott	5 5 3	03
July 25.	Cash of S. B. Scott	28	26
Aug. 1.	Cash of S. B. Scott	206	3 I
Aug. 10.	Cash of S. B. Scott	290	75
Aug. 14.	Cash of S. B. Scott	127	78
Aug. 24.	Cash of S. B. Scott	165	00
Aug. 29.	Cash of S. B. Scott	IOI	30
Aug. 29.	Cash of S. B. Scott	85	00
Sep. 4.	Cash of G. W. Sanderson	I	об
Sep. 13.	Cash of S. B. Scott	187	16
Sep. 26.	Cash of S. B. Scott	368	40
Oct. 4.	Cash of S. B. Scott	380	04
Oct. 4.	Cash of S. B. Scott	383	79
Oct. 8.	Cash of G. W. Sanderson	<i>7</i> 5	00
Oct. 25.	Cash of S. B. Scott	1105	22
Oct. 25.	Cash of Louis Rome, li-		
000. 23.	Cash of Louis Rome, II-		
000. 23.	cense	6	00
Oct. 26.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott	266	00
	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott		00
Oct. 26.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott	266	00 68
Oct. 26. Oct. 28.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott	266 45 3	00 68 73
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott	266 453 503	00 68 73 91
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28. Nov. 1.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott	266 453 503 3200	00 68 73 91
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28. Nov. 1. Nov. 2.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Ayer Bank, town note	266 453 503 3200	00 68 73 91 43
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28. Nov. 1. Nov. 2.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Ayer Bank, town note Cash of S. B. Scott	266 453 503 3200 766	00 68 73 91 43
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28. Nov. 1. Nov. 2. Nov. 2.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Ayer Bank, town note	266 453 503 3200 766 2000	00 68 73 91 43 00 76
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28. Nov. 1. Nov. 2. Nov. 2.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Ayer Bank, town note Cash of S. B. Scott	266 453 503 3200 766 2000 399	00 68 73 91 43 00 76
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28. Nov. 1. Nov. 2. Nov. 2. Nov. 4. Dec. 4.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Ayer Bank, town note Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott	266 453 503 3200 766 2000 399	00 68 73 91 43 00 76
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28. Nov. 1. Nov. 2. Nov. 2. Nov. 4. Dec. 4.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Ayer Bank, town note Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Commonwealth of Massachusetts, corporation tax	266 453 503 3200 766 2000 399	00 68 73 91 43 00 76 94
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28. Nov. 1. Nov. 2. Nov. 2. Nov. 4. Dec. 4.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Ayer Bank, town note Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Commonwealth of Massachusetts, corporation tax Cash of Commonwealth of	266 453 503 3200 766 2000 399 200	00 68 73 91 43 00 76 94
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28. Nov. 1. Nov. 2. Nov. 2. Nov. 4. Dec. 4. Dec. 10.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Ayer Bank, town note Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Commonwealth of Massachusetts, corporation tax Cash of Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bank tax	266 453 503 3200 766 2000 399 200	00 68 73 91 43 00 76 94
Oct. 26. Oct. 28. Oct. 28. Nov. 1. Nov. 2. Nov. 2. Nov. 4. Dec. 4. Dec. 10.	cense Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Ayer Bank, town note Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of S. B. Scott Cash of Commonwealth of Massachusetts, corporation tax Cash of Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bank tax	266 453 503 3200 766 2000 399 200 697 172	00 68 73 91 43 00 76 94 86

Dec. 10.		ш	
D	Massachusetts, paupers	\$10	00
Dec. 10.	Cash of Commonwealth of		
	Massachusetts, burial		
	fees		00
Dec. 20.	Cash of City of Fitchburg	-	00
Dec. 20.	Cash of City of Lynn		50
Dec. 23.	Cash of G. W. Sanderson	131	18
Dec. 30.	Cash of S. B. Scott	344	52
Dec. 30.	Cash of Ayer Bank, town		
	note	1000	00
Dec. 30.	Cash of International Trust		
	Co.	242	32
Dec. 30.	Cash of Geo. L. Wright,		
	share for superintendent	357	14
1900.	C 1 (C W C 1	_	
Jan. 3.	Cash of G. W. Sanderson	0	50
Jan. 3.	Cash of Commonwealth of		
_	Massachusetts	_	87
Jan. 11.	Cash of S. B. Scott	132	67
Jan. 26.	Cash of Commonwealth of		
	Massachusetts, poor	2 06	93
Jan. 26.	Cash of Commonwealth of		
	Massachusetts, school		
	fund	394	38
Feb. 1.	Cash of County Treasurer,		
	dog fund	157	14
Feb. 1.	Cash of Alvin Lawton, li-		
	cense	I	00
Feb. 1.	Cash of City of Boston	124	80
	-		\$23,111 24

EXPENDITURES.

raid outstanding orders of	maich i,	
. 1899	\$812	61
March orders	650	05
April orders	118	87
May orders	\$1735	44
June orders	945	81
July orders	1415	25
August orders	787	03
September orders	829	76
October orders	2115	50
November orders	8376	14
December orders	1410	63
1900.		
Paid January orders	2040	82
February orders	961	
		\$22,892 24
Cash on hand		\$219 00
		m 9 00

HENRY EDGARTON,

SHIRLEY, March 1, 1900.

TREASURER.

POLICE OFFICER'S REPORT.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Shirley:

Gentlemen—I herewith submit my report of the number of arrests made by me during the period I have been on regular duty as police officer:

Whole number of arrests 26

Drunkenness 8
Violation liquor law 10

AUDITORS' REPORT.

SHIRLEY, March 16, 1900.

To the Citizens of Shirley:

We hereby certify that we have examined the accounts of the Selectmen, Town Treasurer and Overseers of the Poor, for the year ending March 1, 1900, and find them correctly kept, with proper vouchers for money paid out.

MELVIN W. LONGLEY, JOHN E. L. HAZEN,

AUDITORS.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT OF REGISTRATION.

MARRIAGES IN 1899.

Residence Shirley when not given.

- Jan. 18. Alton LaForest Cole, Rhoda E. Duby.
- Feb. 4 Charles Miller Peterson, Mary Peterson.
- Feb. 11. Barney Bodah, Florence Bangs.
- Mar. 13. Edward B. Felch, Lillian F. Wade, Bellows Falls, Vt.
- Mar. 29. Harry B. Divoll, Leominster, Eva S. Taylor.
- April 11. Lewis Boucher, Angeligne Lecuyer.
- April 11. Louis Mushrall, Exilda Lambert.
- May 10. Thomas L. Eldredge, Alice E. Foote.
- May 29. Lester A. Fitts, Altie Fairbanks.
- June 3. John W. Slocom, Annie Chandonnett.
- June 14. Stanley W. Powell, Etta A. Maddocks, Washington, Me.
- June 20. John Neat, Clara Arlen, Ayer.
- June 28. Charles W. Labarre, Rockingham, Vt., Emmie A. Thayer.

- July 30. Charles Stebbins, Maggie Maloney.
- Aug. 19. George A. Devarney, Mary Elmer.
- Sept. 6. George A. Stevens, Fitchburg, Lina R. Selig.
- Sept. 28. Joseph A. Buxton, Smithfield, R. I., Katie Dyer.
- Oct. 2. Charlie Gionet, Mary Gionet.
- Oct. 7. John E. Rogers, Brattleboro, Vt., Aldine L. Wright, Orange.
- Nov. 5. Alexander Bulger, Melinda Cyr.
- Nov. 23. George H. Adams, Josephine Rogers, Nashua, N. H.
- Nov. 25. Alexander Duby, Rachel Main.

BIRTHS.

Forty-three births have been registered — nineteen males and twenty-four females.

DEATHS IN 1899.

Birthplace Shirley when not given.

			YRS.	MOS	DYS.
Jan.	8.	William H. Alsopp, Acton		3	12
Jan.	I 5.	Homer Wilson, Torrington, Conn.	53	4	
Jan.	22.	Ellen M. White	56	8	
Jan.	28.	Helen D. Miner		7	
Feb.	5.	Lewis O. La Valley, Canada	20	4	
Feb.	ΙΙ.,	Wenton B. Masters, Nova Scotia	5 9	4	29

			YRS.	MOS.	DYS.
Feb.	15.	Patrick Mitchell, Ireland	78		
Feb.	18.	E. Winslow Russell, Harvard	67	10	9
Mar.	19.	Thomas H. Burnley, England	69		17
Mar.	19.	Daniel E. Kane, Ireland	32	ΙI	
April	26.	Edward E. Nickerson, Chatham	64	6	23
May	II.	Abigail T. Humes, Bakersfield,			
		Vt.	73	10	8
May	27.	Stillborn.			
June	I 7.	Jerry E. Genoit	I	4	17
June	28.	Joseph Bastine, Canada	65		
June	29.	Sidney W. Benjamin, Ashburn-			
		ham	66	I	4
Aug.	2.	Harriet A. Prouty, Spencer	88	7	20
Aug.	5.	Edward E. Devarney		2	
Aug.	17.	Mathew F. Mullaney, Boston		- 3	
Aug.	17.	Stillborn			
Aug.	24.	Oscar Sidelow			Ι2
Sept.	9.	Mary Bodah, 6 hrs.			
Oct.	6.	Edith Simmons, Hollis, N. H.	5		
Nov.	7.	Arthur Picard, Canterbury, N. H.	36		
Nov.	8.	Margaret Boucher, Canada	69		
Nov.	IO.	Henry Boucher	12		23
Nov.	27.	Edward Gionet	I	6	
Dec.	•	Mary Holden, Pepperell	86	3	23
				_	

Seventy-five dogs have been registered from May 1, 1899, to May 1, 1900.

Amount of fees received, \$177.

JONAS LONGLEY, Town Clerk.

TOWN WARRANT.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

MIDDLESEX SS.

To Jonas Longley, Clerk of the Town of Shirley, in said County,

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, aforesaid, you are hereby required by posting an attested copy of this Warrant at the Postoffice in Shirley, and a like copy in the Postoffice in Shirley Village, eight days at least before the time herein appointed for the meeting, to warn all the legal voters of said Town, to assemble in the Town Hall, on Monday, the nineteenth day of March instant, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to give in their votes on one ballot, for a Town Clerk, three Selectmen, and three Overseers of the Poor, three Assessors, Treasurer, one School Committee for three years, two Trustees of the Public Library for three years, two Auditors, three Constables; also, to vote Yes or No on the question: Shall license be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquor in this Town. The polls will be open at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, and may be closed at three o'clock P. M. of said day. Also to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE I. To choose a Moderator.

ART. 2. To choose all officers not required by law to be chosen by ballot.

ART. 3. To hear the report of the Selectmen and act thereon.

ART. 4. To see what sum of money the town will raise and appropriate for the support of schools, and the poor, highways and bridges, fire department, enforcement of law, interest on notes, library, cemeteries, Memorial Day, street lights, salary of officers, transportation of library books, repairs to Town House and all necessary and incidental expenses of the town for the ensuing year.

ART. 5. To see what action the town will take in relation to the collection of taxes.

ART. 6. To see if the town will fix the salary of the Tax Collector or act thereon.

ART. 7. To see if the town will authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow money in anticipation of taxes or act thereon.

ART. 8. To see if the town will accept or alter the list of jurors as prepared by the Selectmen.

ART. 9. To see if the town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to prepare a division of the town into convenient voting precincts in accordance with Sec. 163 of Chap. 548, Acts of 1898, and the acts in amendment thereof or in addition thereto or act thereon.

- ART. 10. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum or sums of money for the purpose of transporting voters from Shirley Village to the Town House or act thereon.
- ART. 11. To see if the town will vote to build a row of horse sheds near to the Town House, and raise and appropriate a sum of money therefor or act thereon.
- ART. 12. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to place two catch basins on Chapel street or act thereon.
- Art. 13. To see what action the town will take relative to the dissolution of the existing school union with the towns of Harvard, Bolton and Boylston or act thereon.
- Art. 14. To see if the town will vote to increase the number of school committee to six or act thereon.
- ART. 15. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectmen to borrow the sum of fourteen thousand dollars to pay the floating indebtedness of the town or act thereon.
- ART. 16. To see if the town will vote to elect a Tree Warden in accordance with Chap. 330, Acts of 1899 or act thereon.

ART. 17. To see if the town will vote to amend the vote adopted at the special town meeting held May 7th, 1892, wherein were designated the officers to be chosen by ballot, by the addition of the words "and a Tree Warden for one year."

ART. 18. To see if the town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to cause a drain to be laid across Summer Street, so called, from a point near the house occupied by Charles Sargent over land of the estate of John Parsons, deceased, to the Fredonian Mill Pond, and raise and appropriate a sum of money therefor or act thereon.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to one of the Selectmen at or before said meeting.

Given under our hand at Shirley, this sixth day of March, A. D., 1900.

D. CHESTER PARSONS, JOHN W. FARRAR, JACOB P. HAZEN,

SELECTMEN OF SHIRLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

AND

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

OF THE

TOWN OF SHIRLEY

FOR THE

YEAR 1899-1900.

AYER, MASS.
HUNTLEY S. TURNER, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER.
1900.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE, 1899.

Amos N. Somers (Resigned).

Mrs. Mary M. Nickless (Appointed). Term expires 1900.

HENRY EDGARTON. Term expires 1901. W. H. WILBUR. Term expires 1902.

ORGANIZATION.

HENRY EDGARTON, Chairman.

Amos N. Somers, Secretary.

Superintendent and Supply Agent, Charles L. Clay.

Residence, Harvard, Mass.

SPECIAL TEACHERS.

Music — Alice M. Laird. Residence, Worcester, Mass.

DRAWING--EMILY L. HAINES.
Residence, Townsend, Mass."

Truant Officers.

WILLIAM H. CROSSMAN. HERBERT LAWRENCE.

SCHOOL REPORT.

ASSETS.

Appropriations		\$3650	00		
Commonwealth of	Massachusetts,				
superintendent		357	14		
Longley Fund	1	235	38		
Parker Fund		192	26		
Commonwealth of	Massachusetts,				
school fund		394	38		e
County Treasury, do	og fund	I 57	14		
				\$4986	30
Commonwealth of	Massachusetts,				
	year superin-	~			
tendent, 8-28th	•			\$238	30
	EXPENDITURES.				
Teachers		\$2372	80		
Janitors		244	13		
Repairs		444	54		
Supplies		357	42		
Fuel		271			
Tuition		120	•		
Incidentals		458	.32		
Superintendent		321	_		
1				\$4590	22

ITEMS.

TEACHERS.

TEMOTIEMS.		
Frank H. Dame	\$236 00	
Abbie McNiff	311 40	
Grace M. Kilburn	30 6 00	
Ida C. Hartwell	343 50	
Lura A. White	327 00	
Jennie R. Sanborn	400 50	
Mabel B. Ayers	63 00	
S. Ellen Brown	187 50	
Abbie W. Green	17 85	
Alice M. Laird, music	70 05	
Emily L. Haines, drawing	110 00	
Charles L. Clay, superintendent	321 43	
		\$2694 23
FUEL.		
Conant Bros. & Co.	\$211 83	
T. L. Hazen,	30 00	
E. L. White	I 75	
Samuel Farnsworth	20 00	
Stephen Cary, sawing wood	8 00	
7, 8		\$271 58
MISCELLANEOUS.		
W. H. Crossman, truants	\$26 25	
S. B. Scott, carriage	8 80	
E. B. Fairchild, transportation of		
scholars	70 00	
E. A. Jenkins, transportation of schol-		
ars	82 00	

J. C. Neat, transportation of scholars H. Parker, legal services in Somers	•	
case	100 00	•
J. C. Ayers, land	12 00	
D. C. Parsons, expenses in Somers		
case	37 50	
W. H. Cram, teaming	2 50	
D. C. Parsons, deed and record	2 27	
Town of Ayer, tuition	120 00	
		\$578 32
REPAIRS.		,
W. H. Brown	\$37 83	
W. H. Crossman	146 79	
O. D. Cass & Co.	159 87	
C. H. Kennison	1 00	
Theophile Lambert	30 00	
G. M. Ballou	30 39	
J. C. Ayers	4 25	
R. M. Priest	I IO	
Conant Bros. & Co.	17 06	
P. Fanion	30	
Fitchburg R. R., freight	4 43	
Wm. McCool	75	
National Express	15	
C. H. Parmenter	6 60	
Baker-Ricketson Co.	1 65	
J. W. Farrar	i 12	
N. A. Holden	I 25	,,
		\$444 54
JANITOR.		
W. H. Crossman	\$202 00	
H. C. Owens	4 00	
F. W. Hodgdon	9 00	
A. N. Somers	4 93	

Annie M. Fuller, cleaning Alice Dawborn Mrs. Fred Bruce, cleaning Mrs. L. E. Holden, cleaning M. W. Cary	\$1 20 5 40 2 70 2 90 12 00	\$244 13
SCHOOL SUPPLIES.		
American Book Co.	\$35 23	
J. C. Ayers	ψ33 23 IO	
E. E. Babb & Co.	5 75	
Educational Publishing Co.	12 92	
Fitchburg R. R. Co.	3 61	
National Express	3 00	
Ginn & Co.	7 46	
J. L. Hammett Co.	142 25	·
D. C. Heath & Co.	9 06	
Houghton, Mifflin & Co.	4 08	
Geo. S. King & Co.	13 50	
The Morse Co.	27 86	
Prang Educational Co.	5 20	
Puritan Publishing Co.	1 50	
Silver, Burdett & Co.	31 85	
A. N. Somers	I 52	
W. H. Wheeler & Co.	I 60	
C. L. Clay	14 61	
Wm. Sargent	16 57	
Thomson, Brown & Co.	2 70	
B. H. Sanborn & Co.	90	
Wadsworth, Howland & Co.	3 13 .	
F. H. Cook & Co.	I 00	
H. O. Peasley	8 07	
Conant Bros. & Co.	3 95	4
		\$357 42

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the School Committee:

In accordance with requiring law and established custom, I submit my fifth report as Superintendent of the Schools of Shirley for the year ending March 1, 1900.

STATISTICS.

Population, census 1895	1,399
Valuation, 1899	\$765,513
Number of schoolhouses	6
Number of schoolhouses occupied	4
Number of schools	6
Number of terms of school	3
Number of different teachers employed	7
Children between ages of 5 and 15, Sept. 1,	
1899	238
Expense of supplies per pupil, based on enrol-	
ment	\$ 89
Same based on average membership	1 05
The same throughout the State	I 52
Cost of Shirley's share of Superintendent	71 43

PASSING EVENTS.

In a small town like ours every changing circumstance and passing event connected with the schools and other local concerns finds its way to most of the citizens through the public prints; a record of the details of school interests is mainly of importance only for future reference, or for the benefit of those who, though removed from "the scenes of their childhood," are still pleased to know what is transpiring therein.

The work of the year has been broken in upon very seriously by the prevalence of measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, severe colds, etc. In November the schools at the villages were closed for four weeks by order of the Board of Health.

The detriment to our schools which arises from changing teachers has not been so great as usual, as the changes have been fewer than usual. During the spring term the teachers were the same as were employed at the time of your last report, with the exception of the one at the Center School, to which the East School with its teachers was united.

At the beginning of the fall term the same corps of teachers was present. The increased number of pupils at the village necessitated the reopening of No. 8, to which Miss Kilburn with her school was transferred, and Miss McNiff was placed in charge of the Second Primary, her school at the North being united with the Center School.

The work opened auspiciously in September, and never with more promise of success since I have been connected with you. The first "break" came with the resignation of Mr. Dame at the end of the sixth week. Miss S. Ellen Brown, a teacher of large experience and excellent reputation, had barely been installed when an accident to Miss Hartwell of the Intermediate necessitated putting in a substitute; only two and one-half days passed before the enforced vacation came, and the few actual cases of disease, and consequent alarms, after the schools reopened on Dec. 4, have kept the per centage of attendance low in every school. If we have no more interruptions, under the favorable conditions now existing, it is expected, by the end of the school year in June, that the several grades will be in fair position for the usual promotions.

IN THE SERVICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

From a communication received from the State Board of Education, about a year ago, the following extract is made:

"The new school census (Chapter 496, Acts of 1898, Section 13) is to be taken for the first time in September, 1899. It is recommended that, in all towns and cities that do not already require it, school registers shall be opened and enrollment lists begun at that time, and that thereafter school attendance facts shall be determined for a school year beginning at that time. The attendance facts for a majority of the children in the schools are already determined for such a school year. * *

"Money returns of school expenditures must be made up, as heretofore, from the fiscal years of the towns and cities, whatever those fiscal years may be. * * *"

MUSIC AND DRAWING.

Looking to a fuller development of the abilities of the children, you followed my advice in regard to instruction in the subjects of music and drawing, and during the year Miss Alice M. Laird has given lessons in music, and Miss Haines has continued her lessons in drawing, each once in two weeks alternately, and each also laying out the work to be done by the regular teachers in the interims. arrangement of the sessions and reduced number of schools allow each room to receive the benefit of a full lesson from each of these special teachers during the day she is present in town. Marked improvement has been made in each subject, and both teachers enjoy the eager interest and helpful co-operation of all the pupils and their regular teachers. I do not know that anybody criticises the wisdom of the small expenditure which gives the children special instruction in these two branches of study, but sometimes drawing is called a needless and even a wasteful use of time.

Massachusetts the day for argument in its favor has long since gone by.

"Drawing, when adopted as a legitimate study in the school curriculum, was considered chiefly from the standpoint of its industrial value. Its close connection with the bread and butter problem was the argument for its introduction. Gradually it has passed from its utilitarian aims to a higher usefulness, that of creating spiritual power. Previously it had trained the hand and the eye; it had developed the mind. It must now awaken the soul. be questioned whether this is too high an aim for a public school education. Surely a harmonious development is desired. To give healthful exercise to every faculty, to stir the best energies for good, to develop an appreciation of that which is highest and most beautiful, and thus to lift the child above the hard drudgery of life, this, it seems to me, leads to true culture."-Superintendent's Report, New Bedford, 1898.

"In all grades, flowers and plant forms are painted in their colors. This gives the pupils the study of nature, drill in correct drawing, and the study of color. Their love for flowers and nature in general is increased, which does the child a world of good, for it refines his nature, and puts him nearer the maker of nature's beauty. Whittier has said:

'O, painter of the fruits and flowers!
We thank thee for thy wise design
Whereby these human hands of ours
In nature's garden work with thine.'"
—Superintendent's Report, Fitchburg, 1898.

Mr. Henry S. Bailey in his report upon art instruction in some of the elementary schools of Europe (State Superintendent's Report, 1897-1898, p. 306) says: "My second impression is that art instruction in the public schools of London is five years behind our own, in Paris ten, in Ber-

lin fifteen, in Rome twenty. * * * Nowhere except in the United States has the ideal of an art instruction of the entire people for the sake of a larger life taken possession of the leaders. We believe that art instruction, with all that it includes, should be disciplining, that it should prepare the way for the arts and crafts, that it should furnish a new language, but we believe also that it should add grace to precision, combine tact with power, and enrich the prose of life with the poetry of eternal beauty."

A HIGH SCHOOL.

By an Act of the Legislature, approved June 2, 1898, the State requires each town, however small, to either support a high school of its own or to make adequate provisions for educating its high school pupils in the high school of another city or town. The substance of the law is as follows:

- 1. The school shall be adequately equipped and kept by a teacher of competent ability and good morals.
- 2. Instructions shall be in such subjects as are required for the general purpose of training and culture, and such as will prepare pupils for admission to State Normal Schools, Technical Schools and Colleges.
- 3. It shall maintain one or more courses of study, at least four years in length, and shall continue forty weeks at least, each year.
- 4. A town may, if it chooses, meet only a portion of the foregoing requirements in its own high school, provided, that it shall make adequate provisions for meeting the rest of said requirements in the high school of another town or any city.

Some of our parents are asking me, why we cannot have a high school course of two years at least. They feel that besides the expense of car fares, the physical and moral effect of going away from home each day on the train, is not salutary upon boys and girls, espically of 14 to 16 years of age.

Your superintendent does not possess the power for instituting a high school, and my reply to parents has been that they must interest the voters and taxpayers of the town in the matter. It will be borne in mind, that in my first report, it was recommended that provisions in the new school building should be made for the needs of a possible high school. We are now paying the tuition in outside high schools of some thirteen pupils, and there are some others beyond the grammar grade who would doubtless continue their studies if an opportunity were afforded at Our population is likely to increase and more school accommodations at the village are likely to be needed before long. It may be well for the town to consider whether to meet the conditions imposed upon it by the state, for the best interests of both the town and its pupils of high school grades, it may not be expedient to finish and furnish a room on the second floor of the new building, and educate its high school pupils for the first two years of their course. Such a room might also accommodate the Ninth Grade of the Grammar School, and room be thus provided for an increase of fifteen to twenty-five pupils beyond what we can now take care of.

ATTENDANCE.

Our attendance, aside from that produced by contagious disease, which causes alarm and often unnecessary fear, with consequent absence of pupils, is below what it should be. There can be no solid excuse for the large number of tardy cases, which are occasioned by pupils living largely within ten minutes' walk of the schools attended. I earnestly bespeak the co-operation of parents, and all interested in having the best schools possible, in endeavoring to overcome this serious defect. The "public opinion" and "school sentiment" of each room ought to be so prominent

in maintaining a high standard as to act as a strong corrective of this matter.

The following table shows the percentage of attendance in each school for the several months of the school year:

Schools.	April.	May.	June.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
First Primary	94	95	82	92	89	•	72	83	83
Second Primary	96	96	79	93	91		75	90	94
Third Primary				94	87		79	86	86
Intermediate	94	93	73	91	94		<i>7</i> 5	88	92
Grammar	93	87	92	93	98		90	90	89
North	98	96	81						
Center	91	92	88	91	90	74	96	92	80

SICKNESS AND DEATH.

So many of the pupils were sick in June that it was deemed unwise to hold the school exhibition and festival, as we had planned. The year has been marked by an unusual mortality.

Intermediate School.

November 12, 1899, Henry Boucher, aged 12 years.

Second Primary.

January 2, 1900, Otto Badstubner, aged 9 years.

First Primary.

February 3, 1900, Myrtle McIntyre, aged 5 years.

CONCENTRATION.

Acting for what seemed the best interests of the pupils in the three ungraded and small outlying schools, a trial has been made during the year of conveying the pupils of the east and north parts of the town to the center. The East School of eight pupils was combined with the Center during the spring term. The results proved so satisfactory that the North School eight pupils were brought to the Center at the beginning of the fall term. For the last term all the children of school age in the north and east parts of the town have been conveyed, seven from the former and eight from the latter. With perhaps one exception, no pupil in either of these sections lives over one and one half miles from the Center School, and there is no farm at a greater distance from the Center School than are many farms of Massachusetts in towns where the boundary lines of old districts still remain. So many entrance children belonging to the center district appeared in September that the combined enrolment of the three schools made more pupils than the teacher could handle to the best advantage, and Miss Mabel B. Avers was employed to assist during the forenoons. If the school should increase much more, it would probably be best to divide the present schoolroom into two, or else partition off a part of the room into a primary recitation room; or what in my judgment would be of much greater benefit to the pupils of VI grade and above, convey them to the village Grammar School, and make the Center School, as long as it is so largely composed of so young children, virtually a primary school. I think this could be done with the same, if not at a less expense, than that of the past year.

I can not speak as a parent having children carried from the north and east to the center, but from my observation, and as an officer of the town, conscientiously seeking the best interests of the town, and especially of the children directly concerned, this first trial of uniting three weak schools into one strong in numbers is proving successful and satisfactory. The care, comfort and convenience with which the children have been carried by those having the matter in charge has largely contributed to this success and satisfaction. I feel that the carriers you have employed have done well, and won deserved approbation.

SUPERVISION.

The fifth year of my care of the schools as supervisor has been designed to be characterized by a renewed effort to make the supervision more beneficial to the school and pupils. Beginning with the full term, throughout the district no teachers' meetings are being held; instead, such suggestions as I wish to make in general, and an outline of the work to be attempted each month, have regularly been sent to the teachers in writing. This method has some advantages over the former plan.

The written work and all papers of each pupil have been kept for my inspection from visit to visit, and for the benefit of those wishing to see the daily occupation of the children. This plan is also proving beneficial, as it gives a better opportunity to observe the methods in use by pupils and teachers, affords a chance to suggest corrections in individual cases, and also acts as a constant incentive for good work on the part of each pupil.

From these examinations of work, I have frequently selected specimens and shown in the other schools of the district—specimens which are worthy of imitation, or which sometimes show effects of bad teaching and errors to be avoided. Competition is as good for schools as for business.

PICTOGRAMS.

"The teacher wants you to bring the pictures! She will be sending for the chairs next," was the exclamation of a mother upon the misinterpretation of her child's remark.

Aside from the mere adornment of the walls of schoolrooms, pictures are coming to be an important factor in the presentation of subjects of study. Most children's literature, magazines, railroad guides, posters, advertising matter, and even the daily news, abound in illustrations which are creditable works of pictographic art, and are especially helpful in the study of history and geography. Some of our schools arrange sheets or "booklets" of pictures, which characterize a month, or some particular day, as February 22, or historic trees, famous buildings, scenes in some particular country, or associated with some locality, as Salem, or some subject of history, as the Puritans. To such an extent has the reproduction of works of art and pictures of noted persons, places and objects of interest been carried, that there is hardly anything the whole world round which has not come within the focus of the camera or been sketched by the pencil of the artist.

Probably more pictures have found their way into our schoolrooms during the last ten years than during all the previous history of public education. I predict that in the near future sets of pictures illustrating and illuminating subjects of study will be as regularly supplies to schools as are text books and pencils. To see with the eye, as well as to hear with the ear, gives a double interest, and frequently occasions more than a doubly clear understanding of the object we are studying.

PROMOTIONS.

In a town where so many parents send their children to school simply because the law requires it, and only wait for the limit of school age that they may put their children at work, the matter of promotions and doing the best possible good to such children has to be considered. Then, if some pupil can pass the examination required for entrance to the high school at the age of fourteen, and at the end of the seventh grade, some other pupil older in years, perhaps, and not so proficient in his studies asks the town authorities to grant him a certificate to enter the same school, and frequently the parents of such pupils are ready to severely

criticise everybody and everything connected with our schools, if their demands are not granted irrespective of the personal equation in the matter. In regard to the first class referred to above, it should be borne in mind that children are entering our schools every term who cannot speak a word of English, and do not learn our language at their homes. If we were to hold our pupils strictly to grade, many of them would not get through the primary grades before they were fourteen, and our lower schools would be overcrowded, and the upper grades small, as is even now the case. In the matter of promotions, the main question to be considered, I think, is what is for the best interest of this pupil, who probably will be in school nine, seven, five, or only three years.

In regard to the latter class, it ought to be kept in mind that the value of a high school course depends largely upon a pupil's preparation for it, both as to book knowledge and degree of mental development; this does not depend at all primarily upon a child's age. It is the almost universal opinion and custom in towns having ungraded schools, during about nine months a year, to require nine years of work in the elementary schools in order to prepare for entrance upon high school work. Shirley boys and girls are just as bright and proficient as those of other towns, but not more so particularly; at least it can safely be asserted that our scholars cannot do well in seven or eight years, what those of other towns can do only in nine or ten years. One criticism against our modern school system is that the children are pushed along too rapidly, but my experience has been that the pushing has come mainly from demands of parents themselves. While I remain as your superintendent, without prejudice in favor or against any pupil in whatever part of our town residing, my influence will be given to the promotion of our scholars as fast as in my judgment their individual interests will be advanced,

LOOKING BACKWARD.

The growth and advancement of our schools from year to year may seem small and unimportant, but a comparison of our schools and their surroundings with what they were five years ago shows an aggregate gain in this short period of marked improvement. It is with a feeling of real satisfaction that I briefly note the changes, for if there was a town in Middlesex County where school accommodations were so poor as ours in 1895, I do not know of it.

- I. The erection and equipment of a fine two-room schoolhouse for grammar and intermediate grades, at a cost of some \$6000.
- II. The reflooring, reseating, painting, etc., of the old schoolhouse and No. 8, for the primary grades; and the same except painting of the house at the Center, together with moving and repairing of the out-house.
- III. The consolidation of the three outlying small schools, whereby, not only will greater benefits come to the children attending the concentrated schools, but also the saving of quite a few dollars.
- IV. Great improvement in the equipment, care, and attraction of *every* schoolroom in use.
- V. A better grading, and consequently more efficient system in the village schools especially.
- VI. The supplies kept in one of the school buildings in an available room, and under the care of the superintendent, with a saving to the town of a small sum each year.
- VII. The change from slant to vertical writing, the introduction of newer and much better geographies, quite an extended amount and variety of supplementary reading matter, the word system of reading, and some of the latest books for regular readers.
 - VIII. The money annually spent for a singing teacher

has been divided between a special teacher in music and one in drawing, much to the advantage of the pupils.

IX. Our teachers and school officials are more desirous to be "up to date" in methods, and are more anxious to have Shirley schools as good as possible.

X. There is (in common with the school spirit of towns about us) "a more pronounced demand for teachers trained to teach and skilled to discipline, with a finer art of governing and a deeper love and sympathy for the child."

All of these things are matters of great interest to every citizen of our town; of encouragement to those who have helped promote them and make them possible; of appreciation by the children who have and are enjoying them, however unconsciously they may seem to do so. With all the cost of money and adverse criticism, is there one who would really wish to return to the conditions and surroundings of five years ago?

RELATION OF SUPERINTENDENT TO SCHOOL COMMITTEES.

From the fifty-ninth annual report of the Massachusetts Board of Education the following is given as the relations sustained by the Superintendent to the

(1) School Committee.

"He is the executive head or agent of the School Committee. It is the province of the committee to legislate, to give a candid consideration and final decision on the general policy to be pursued. It is the province of the superintendent to study every phase of education, to suggest to the committee what, in his judgment, he thinks for the best interest of the schools, and, after decision of the committee, to execute their wishes. He keeps the committee well informed on the actual and comparative condition and needs of the schools, freely and conscientiously recommending changes where improvements are needed. He is

their professional leader, and makes his influence felt on all questions pertaining to the welfare of the schools."

(2) To the Pupils.

"The Superintendent sees that the schools are provided with everything necessary to the bodily health and comfort of pupils, as well as with every appliance for their instruction. He assists in examining, classifying and promoting pupils from time to time, and by his discriminating oversight prevents the machinery of school organization from losing all individuality. Proper gradation and frequent promotions lead to increased interest and better attendance. He encourages pupils to be prompt and regular at school, and to this end sees that truant officers do their duty. He excites the ambition of pupils to obtain a good education, and as a result the attendance in grammar and high schools is greatly increased."

(3) To the Parents and the Public.

"The Superintendent often renders the schools invaluable service by interesting the people—the fathers and mothers, taxpayers and voters—in their present condition and needed improvements. He gains their attention and support by frequent teachers' meetings, where all interested can learn of what is being attempted, and of modern education, its purpose, means and methods; * * * by school exhibitions, where some of the more tangible results of school work can be displayed; by arranging special visiting days, where the regular daily work of the schools can be observed; by providing monthly and yearly reports of pupils' work and progress for the inspection of parents. * *

"Again, he often acts the part of intermediary in settling differences and misunderstandings between parents and children on the one hand and teachers on the other. Educational machinery will always work with greater ease and efficiency if the cogs, wheels and bearings are kept well oiled."

THE EDUCATIONAL POLICY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Secretary Hill of the Massachusetts State Board of Education sets forth its larger features, to which I desire to call the earnest consideration of the people of Shirley. He says:

"The ideals of this policy are substantially the following:

- "I. Education is more than an individual, family or school district interest—it concerns the town and the State.
- "2. The schools do not exist to furnish places for the relatives and friends of the appointing power or for the residents of a locality—they exist for the welfare of the children and the community.
- "3. The supreme need of any school is that of the thoroughly competent and wise teacher.
- "4. No pains should be spared by the State to train teachers for their responsible work.
- "5. School buildings should be the highest expression of sanitary and educational wisdom, as well as of civic pride.
- "6. The avenues of ascent through the schools, even to the college doors, should be open and free to the poorest child. Secondary as well as elementary education should therefore be fostered.
- "7. The prosperity of the State, materially, politically, morally, is vitally related to the prosperity of the schools.
- "8. It is the right of children to have their childhood reserved for its natural employments—play, recreation, schooling, and such lighter forms of work as children can do without loss of childhood's privileges. Thrusting them prematurely into factory life or any life akin to that is an abuse of children, and an injury to the State not to be tolerated.

- "9. Habitual absenteeism or truancy works harm both to the child and to the State, and should be stopped.
- "10. The smallest and poorest towns should have good schooling, as well as the largest and wealthiest.
- "11. The State should insist in its laws on such schooling.
- "12. The main dependence of the schools for support should be local taxation.
- "13. Where local taxation goes as far as it ought, and yet fails to provide money enough to insure good schools, the State should aid in securing the needed efficiency.
- "14. By as much as human minds and souls transcend in value the products of human hands, by so much does the need of the schools for competent supervision transcend the need of the factory. No sane corporation would let its workshop drift, and no sane community should let its schools drift, without a directing and unifying head.

"The list might be extended. Mann, Sears, Boutwell, White and Dickinson have never wavered in presenting these ideals to the people. There is not one of them which has not been realized, in a measure, in the school history of the State; not one of them which has not, in a measure, been sinned against; and not one of them, therefore, which the people can afford to drop from earnest thought."

I wish to again make record of my feeling of appreciation and sympathetic co-operation on the part of every one who has been engaged in or is interested in promoting the welfare of the schools of Shirley.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES L. CLAY.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS Of Bolton, Boylston, Harvard and Shirley.

HARVARD, March 3, 1900.

The foregoing report of the Superintendent was accepted by the School Committee and adopted as their report for the year.

HENRY EDGARTON,

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE.

SHIRLEY, MARCH 6, 1900.

ROLL OF HONOR, 1899-1900.

(The figures show the number of terms perfect in attendance)

FIRST PRIMARY.

Richard Weeks, 1 Guy McIntyre, 1 Etta Dippman, 1
Gordon McIntyre, 1

Elmer Harlow, 1

SECOND PRIMARY.

Louise Devarney, I Otto Badstubner, I David Lambert, I Robert Gately, I Joseph Bruso, I Annie Theilig, I

Bertha Weeks, 1

THIRD PRIMARY.

Fred Dippman, 1 Mamie Conners, 1 Fred Lambert, I Willie Conners, I

INTERMEDIATE.

George Wilson, 3 Ralph Wheeler, 1 Bertha Baer, 1 John McCool, 2 Clifford Felch, 1 Leo O'Neil, 1 Gertrude O'Neil, 1 Paula Badstubner, 1 Clara Peneseau, 2
Rodney Brown, I
Frank Gordon, I
Annie McCool, I
Leo Megan, I
Agnes Simmard, I
Angeline Burno, I
Mary Hegerty, I

Eva O'Neil, 1

GRAMMAR,

Ezekiel J. Wilson, 1

Evelyn C. Miner, 1

CENTER.

Ruth M. Graves, I Ralph O. Jenkins, I Howard M. Longley, I Herman E. Willis, I

Helen M. Mellish, I George H. Farmer, 2 Edith P. Longley, I Christine G. Longley, I

SUPPLY ACCOUNT.

By permission of the School Committee I was allowed to purchase books of reference, maps, and other equipments for the village schools to an amount not exceeding one hundred dollars, to be taken from the Longley Fund. These special supplies were distributed as follows:

Grammar School		\$52 11	
Intermediate		3 47	
Third Primary		1 61	
Second Primary		1 50	
First Primary	`	25 46	
			\$84 15

Regular supplies have been distributed as follows:

Grammar School	\$ 51	31
Intermediate	34	45
Third Primary	27	52
Second Primary	28	46
First Primary	16	38
Center	47	26
North (spring term)	7	29
	'	\$212 67

This is an average of a little less than one dollar per pupil, while the average per pupil throughout the state was (1898-9) \$1.52.

SUPPLY AGENT'S ACCOUNT.

DR.

To supplies on hand March 1, 1899 To all supplies purchased	\$ 34 99 322 71	\$357 70
CR.		
By special distribution	\$84 15	
By regular distribution	212 67	
By cash for book sold	80	
By supplies on hand March 1	60 08	
		\$357 70

CHAS. L. CLAY, Supply Agent.

LIST OF TEACHERS, 1899-1900.

SCHOOLS.	TEACHERS.	WHEN APPOINTED.	WHERE EDUCATED.	SALARY.
First Primary,	Laura A. White	Sept. 1891	Framingham Normal	\$ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\
Second Primary,	Abbie M. McNiff	June 1899	Fitchburg Normal	98
Third Primary,	Grace M. Kilburn	June 1899	Fitchburg Normal	00 6
Intermediate,	Ida A. Hartwell	Aug. 1898	Fitchburg Normal	2 II 20 10 20 20 20
Grammar	Frank H. Dame	Nov. 1897	Bridgewater Normal	{13 90 12 50
,	S. Ellen Brown	Oct. 1899		12 50
North,	*Abbie M. McNiff	Jan. 1899	Fitchburg Normal	00 6
Contor	Jennie K. Sanborn	Aug. 1898	Salem Normal	10 50
Cellici,	Mabel B. Ayers, asst.	Oct. 1898		3 00

*Spring Term.

SCHOOL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 3, 1900.

,							v	L.
Visits by others.	37	31	6	15	43	rO	. 26	257
Visits by Superintend- ent.	20	2 2	17	28	56	72	22	142
Visits by Committee.	rV.	S	0	3	4	0	0	38
.elsesimsid	28	35	231	28	74		29	325
Tardinesses.	56	27	831	133	175	0	163	637 678
Half-days of absence.	1973	1187	949	1349	926	64	860	7338
Pupils over 15	0	0	0	0	4		0	12
Pupils bet. 7 and 14	18	34	41	36	12		25	181
Pupils bet. 5 and 15.	56	39	41	38	30		35	239
Pupils under 5	0	0	0	0	0		0	0 н`
Percent of attendance	85	16	98	88	16		93	89 92
Average attendance	33.	31.	30.	29.	26.5		29.	201 178.5
Average memberahip	39	34	35	33	29		31	209.6
Total membership	42	35	37	36	32		34	216
Pupils enrolled	56	39	41	38	34		35	240 261
Weeks of School.	34	34	22	34	34	12	36	206
Grades.	I	8	3-4	2-6	6-1	1-1	1-7	1-9
SCHOOLS.	First Primary,	Second Primary,	Fhird Primary,3	Intermediate,	Grammar,	North,	Center,	Totals, Totals 1898–99,

1. Since Sept. 1, 1899, unless enrolled in some other school. 2. Spring term. 3. Two terms.

Bottles of Mucilage.	н	I	61	3		3	
Blotters.	48	96	48	9	96	78	
Pkg. Drawing Paper.	61	9	3	4	3	9	н
Rules.	9	18	30	48	42	8 ¹ .	6
Kubber Erasers.	9	42	99	126	84	48	9
Boxes of Crayons.	3	3	61.	8		61	
Ink Powder.	,	4	61	11	r.	3	н
Pen Holders.			42	30	24		
Boxes of Pens.		81	н	2 25	8	12	− 03
Composition Books.				42	9	54	6
Pkg. Composition Paper.		-121	-467	121	8		=
Pkg. Manila Practice.	2.1	01	11	00	9	6	н
Pkg. White Practice.	3	rs	2	6	rv.	∞	н
Pkg. Arithmetic Paper.	4	9	9	11	8	12	H
Pencils.	240	891	264	348	288	252	36
SCHOOLS.	First Primary,	Second Primary,	Third Primary, 2 terms	Intermediate,	Grammar,	Center,	North, one term,

